

# Workplace Alaska

## Class Specification Natural Resource Specialist III

<b>Created:</b> 11/27/2002 by Connie Preecs	<b>AKPAY Code:</b> P6643	<b>Class Code:</b>	PH0313
<b>Finalized on:</b> 11/16/2002	<b>Class Outline Cat:</b> B	<b>Class Range:</b>	18
	<b>Approved by:</b> Dianne Corso	<b>Class Status:</b>	Active
<b>Category:</b> Professional	<b>Class Title:</b>	Natural Resource Specialist III	
<b>Original Date:</b> 11/16/2002	<b>Use MJR Form:</b>	Standard	

### Original Comments:

Established. New level of series part of Natural Resource Officer/Natural Resource Manager study (cpreecs/jkidd).

### Subsequent Revision Dates/Comments:

12/03/2004 - MQs revised (Powelson)  
09/25/2008 - Workplace AK spec revision: Added Census Job Code and AKPAY Code fields; Replaced Category field with Class Outline Category; Updated EEO4, SOC, and Class Code fields; Removed DOT field.

**Last Update:** **EEO4:** B **SOC:** 19-1099 **Census:** 02

### Last Update Comments:

### Definition:

Under general direction, the Natural Resource Specialist III performs advanced level professional work in the development, administration, analysis, or implementation of programs to manage the land, water, mineral, forest, oil, gas, agricultural, natural and cultural history, park, and related surface and subsurface resources of the state.

### Distinguishing Characteristics:

Natural Resource Specialists (NRS) perform a broad range of tasks associated with the stewardship and management of all state owned land, water, oil, gas and other natural resources except fish and wildlife. The body of work at the NRS III level is characterized by a combination of the following factors:

- 1) High probability of litigation
- 2) Significant public scrutiny involving multiple or highly visible conflicting interests
- 3) Requirement for innovation to develop solutions that meet the needs of multiple disciplines and organizations
- 4) Advanced expertise in a specific natural resource area
- 5) Substantial statewide economic impact

NRSs III exercise independent judgment based upon in-depth knowledge of policies, regulations, statutes, resources, and surface and subsurface land management principles. Positions may manage or coordinate the work of a team of multi-disciplinary technical and professional staff or may lead or supervise lower level positions, but these duties are not class controlling.

NRS III is distinguished from the NRS II by the regular and recurring complexity of the work and the higher consequence of error at the NRS III level. Occasional performance of higher level duties or the performance of these duties for skill development or under close supervision does not meet the intent of the Natural Resource Specialist III job class.

NRS III is distinguished from the NRS IV by the sole focus of the NRS IV on oil and gas resources, emphasizing new exploration and commercial development.

NRS III is distinguished from the Natural Resource Manager (NRM) I by the supervisory and program management responsibilities assigned to the NRM I including a requirement for supervision of staff.

Note: Positions excluded from the NRS series are those that primarily: 1) conduct investigations that require application of a specific scientific background such as hydrology, geology, or forestry; 2) perform specialized field services such as park or visitor protection or fire control; or 3) work in disciplines covered by specific job class specifications.

### Examples of Duties:

Represent the department on interdisciplinary and multi-agency work groups, such as state and federal land and resource management teams.

Provide advanced professional expertise in a specific natural resource management area, such as oil and gas unitization.

Identify potential conflicts with the public, other agencies or industries affected, or with existing statutes and regulations; obtain input from a variety of sources such as the Office of the Attorney General, other agencies, industry or special interest groups in order to resolve disputes; propose regulatory or statutory changes related to area of special expertise.

Research and draft best interest findings for the disposal of land and other resources; analyze public and agency input; draft department response.

Perform field inspections for permit applications or compliance reviews.

Lead project teams composed of multidisciplinary professional staff such as Natural Resource Specialists, geologists and economists; coordinate work of team members; prepare reports.

Determine strategy for the public process; conduct public meetings that are highly technical or involve sensitive and contentious issues; represent the department at public meetings in the area of expertise.

May serve as single point of contact for local, state or federal agencies and the public on projects of statewide significance.

**Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:**

Considerable knowledge of the assigned natural resource field.

Considerable knowledge of the principles of natural resource management.

Considerable knowledge of statutes and regulations and applicable federal law.

Working knowledge of prior judicial and administrative decisions and settlements affecting natural resource issues.

Working knowledge of Geographic Information System technology is used in the management of natural resources in the State of Alaska.

Skill in written and oral communication in order to communicate complex, technical information to technical and general audiences.

Skill in resolving conflicts and diffusing hostile situations.

Skill in negotiating competing interests and persuading others where no formal authority exists.

Ability to locate, compile and analyze information, data or facts from specialized or technical sources.

Ability to manage a number of projects simultaneously.

Ability to lead and coordinate the work of team members from different disciplines or organizations.

**Minimum Qualifications:**

Two years of journey level professional experience in natural resource management. The required experience includes work such as a Natural Resource Specialist II, Forester II, Geologist II, Hydrologist I, Agronomist I, Land Survey Assistant II, Recorder IV, or Environmental Specialist II with the State of Alaska or the equivalent with another employer.

OR:

A master's degree from an accredited college in a natural resource field (such as forestry, geology, agronomy, and hydrology), law, public administration, planning, economics, or a closely related field.

**Required Job Qualifications:**

**(The special note is to be used to explain any additional information an applicant might need in order to understand or answer questions about the minimum qualifications.)**

**Special Note:**

For purposes of the minimum qualifications, natural resource management is defined as the management of the land, water, mineral, forest, oil, gas, agricultural, archaeological, natural and cultural history, park, and related surface and subsurface resources of the state. Experience or education in natural resource management means involvement in the above resources exclusively. Those with experience or education in managing these resources may specialize in different management functions (for example planning, regulation, research or title). All of this experience is applicable to the natural resource management definition. Some positions may require education in a particular area of natural resource management or specific technical knowledge and training gained through specialized education or progressively greater responsibilities at the lower levels of the series.

**Minimum Qualification Questions:**

Do you have two years of journey level professional experience in natural resource management? The required experience includes work such as a Natural Resource Specialist II, Forester II, Geologist II, Hydrologist I, Agronomist I, Land Survey Assistant II, Recorder IV, or Environmental Specialist II with the State of Alaska or the equivalent with another employer.

**Or Substitution:**

Do you have a master's degree from an accredited college in a natural resource field (such as forestry, geology, agronomy, and hydrology), law, public administration, planning, economics, or a closely related field?